

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1952

Thirteen

Haggard Reveals Stand On Campaign Questions

Next Tuesday, Torrance voters will go to the polls to select three City Councilmen and a City Treasurer to serve four-year terms.

During the past few weeks, the Torrance Herald has been publishing interviews with the five independent candidates for the three vacant City Council seats. Today, the Herald winds up its pre-election interviews with this question-and-answer story about one of the independent candidates, Bob Haggard, the present mayor of Torrance who is seeking re-election.

In this interview, Mayor Haggard faces the issues and gives his answers to some of the questions that have been raised during the campaign.

Q—What is your opinion of the move to annex Alondra Park and El Camino College? A—I don't believe in dodging issues, and so I'll state simply that I'm against annexation. And the reasons are as simple as the answer.

Torrance today is receiving full benefit of both Alondra Park and El Camino College, but only pays a portion of the big tax burden now split up among the adjacent communities.

However, if Torrance annexes Alondra Park and El Camino College, there is a possibility the city might have to foot the bill for a major part of the taxes supporting the college, and be responsible for the big bond issues for money needed to expand the college.

If there was some distinct advantage in adding Alondra Park and El Camino College to the city, then the annexation supporters might have a talking point. But the plain and simple facts show there is no advantage.

There is no threat that any other community will annex the territory. And, Torrance itself already is the fourth largest city in Southern California in area. Torrance today has plenty of room for more industrial expansion and for more home construction, without destroying the important balance it has maintained in becoming the ideal residential and industrial city in Southern California.

Torrance is a big city in area. And we need to improve streets, sidewalks, and sanitary facilities in many of our outlying districts. Let's take care of what we have now before we increase our tax burden!

I think it significant that the very men who have built El Camino College feel that any annexation move could only bring harm to the college.

Q—What are your views on city taxes and finances? A—My views are the same as my record. During the past four years I have served as City Councilman and Mayor of Torrance the city has managed to cut its tax rate and show a balanced budget for the first time in 15 years. This speaks for

itself. As for the future, it naturally would be great to say: "Let's cut taxes some more." But it can't be done. It's common sense to know that in a city growing as fast as Torrance, you can't



BOB HAGGARD ... Has the Answers

increase city services such as police and fire protection and schools, and at the same time expect to cut taxes and balance the budget.

With the same good city management such as we have had for the past four years, Torrance should be able to increase its services and hold taxes where they are.

Q—What is your stand on gambling? A—Again, my stand on gambling is the same as my record. I have always voted against gambling, and will continue to fight any kind of gambling trying to get a foothold in Torrance—whether it be card rooms, slot machines, pinball machines, or punchboards.

Q—What are your views on recreation for Torrance? A—Recreation is something too often overlooked in a growing city until it is too late. I think it wise that we plan recreation centers for Torrance now, instead of finding them crowded out by homes and factories a few years from now. I believe Torrance should have recreation centers spread throughout the city, because they will not only make Torrance a better place to live, but will encourage new people to make their homes here.

However, they must be planned and built on a long-range program fitting into the city's budget. I want improvements, but I feel we must keep our city government on sound financial footing while we are moving ahead. We've got to be realistic in our planning.

Q—What is your opinion of parking meters for Torrance? A—It looks like the question of parking meters is a "touchy" one, because none of the other candidates have taken a definite stand. Torrance definitely has a parking problem today, and one which will increase as our city continues to boom. I don't believe that any "special interests" should decide whether Torrance has parking meters. The decision should be up to the voters.

Q—What are some of your plans for improving Torrance? A—Torrance is growing up now, and city officials must become more aware of its individual sections and their needs. Torrance as a whole is important, but so, too, are each of its sections—Walteria, Hollywood Riviera, North Torrance and Seaside Ranchos. Torrance also needs better streets and sidewalks. It's inconvenient and hazardous for children to walk to school along muddy paths. I'll fight for these improvements if re-elected!

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Burglar Suspect Once Attorney, Authorities Say

Preliminary court hearing for Jacob Zitzer, 33-year-old father of six children who was arrested while reportedly looting a highway restaurant, will be held tomorrow at 10 o'clock in City Judge Otto B. Willett's court.

Zitzer who, according to information received by Det. Capt. Ernie Ashton, is a disbarred attorney from Sheboygan, Wis., is being held in county jail on three burglary raps.

More than \$5000 worth of loot was uncovered in Zitzer's garage at 3618 Newton St., Walteria, following his arrest Thursday morning, police say.

The bespectacled father was crowded out by Officers R. E. Wright and Tom Pattishall after a phone call directed them to a cafe at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Neece Ave.

Ashton reports that a radiogram from Wisconsin authorities indicated that Zitzer had been a practicing attorney until only recently. He missed being elected to a district attorney position in Sheboygan by a narrow margin, the radiogram stated.

No reason for his being disbarred from practice was given. Several cartons of tricycles found in the Zitzer storage shed may have been stolen from a Wisconsin manufacturer, Ashton said, as no invoices or address slips were found in the packages. Zitzer reportedly worked for a toy company while in the east.

He came to California in 1950.



CAMPAIGNERS ... Members of the Junior Chambers of Commerce have been busy during the past few weeks in a "Get Out the Vote" drive. Above Dr. Joe Bay, Dick Jensen and Frank Dominguez Jr. put up a sign with the Jaycees vote slogan. Below, members of the Torrance Council of Service Clubs and Chamber of Commerce representatives are sacking up "I'm Voting" buttons now being worn by many Torrance residents. Doing the honors (left to right) are Robert L. Plomert Jr., Dr. Allen Pyeat, Paul Loranger and Dale Isenberg. Seated are Paul Diamond and Russ Lund.

New Air Raid Warning System Has County Officials Buzzing

Torrance's inventive genius, Vic Chatten, set the county on its ear this week with his latest—a new air raid warning system which replaces the often confusing sirens now being used.

Initial announcement of Chatten's new warning was made last Sunday in the Torrance Herald. The following day Chatten, who lives at 1657 W. 215th St., was busy:

- 1. He demonstrated the new system to the County Board of Supervisors at the request of Supervisor Raymond V. Darby.
2. He transcribed a tape recording for the Mutual Broadcasting Systems "Mutual News-reel."
3. He demonstrated his invention to members of the

- Torrance Kiwanis Club at their regular meeting.
4. He appeared with his warning device on KNXT television.
5. In his spare time, he explained the system to reporters from nearly every metropolitan paper in the Southland. Chatten's new device consists

of a self-powered launcher which ejects a screamer rocket audible within a ten-mile radius, at an elevation of 1000 feet, at which point the projectile disintegrates with three sharp blasts. The all-clear rocket fired from a companion tube in the launcher emits a stream distinguishable from the alert missile and releases only one blast.

Under the proposed plan a series of launching stations can be established at existing fire stations which are already equipped with radio and direct wire communications.

Some of the advantages of the proposed system, as told by Darby to the supervisors Monday are:

- 1. It will cost less than one-fourth the present siren system;
2. It is independent of outside power sources;
3. It will eliminate confusion now existing with sirens on emergency vehicles;
4. It will instantly alert an area within a five-mile radius;
5. Strategic materials will be conserved;
6. It is not affected by natural or man-made obstructions;
7. It approaches nearly 100 per cent efficiency.

Chatten says the trigger mechanism for firing the alert and all clear rockets can be placed near the radio and wire facilities of fire stations which maintain 24-hour watches.

Reloading the launcher can be accomplished by fire station personnel in less than three minutes.

An early demonstration before Civil Defense officials is being arranged.

Installation Dinner Slated by Optimists

Forrest W. Myers will be officially seated as president of the Torrance Optimist Club at a dinner-dance Saturday evening at the Hermosa Biltmore, it was announced yesterday.

Plans for one of the finest and best attended installation parties in the club's history have been made, according to Vern Lovelady, chairman of the arrangements committee.

City Asks Aid For Drainage Culvert Plan

The city has asked that the Unified School District help finance installation of an 18-inch drainage culvert to divert storm waters from residences on Via El Chico, not far from the newly constructed Riviera School.

According to a letter read to board members from John Patrick, assistant city engineer, a roadway built by the school in interference with existing drainage, and permitted water to flood portions of Hollywood Riviera streets.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. J. H. Hull said that as soon as a price has been agreed upon by the city, the board will determine what financial assistance, if any, they can offer.

Dr. E. C. Spiros, member of the San Pedro Optimist Club and "father" of the Torrance club, will serve as installing officer. Several new members will also be inducted into the club at the same time.

Taking office with Myers will be Charles Sorenson, first vice-president; C. A. Woodcock, second vice-president; Reid Bundy, secretary; E. V. Winkelbauer, treasurer and Cliff Graybehl, sergeant-at-arms.

Taking over as the board of directors will be Al Turner, Dr. Jack Roberts, Clyde Anderson, Vern Lovelady and Richard Miller.

Turning in his last official performance as president of the club will be Dr. Allen Pyeat, who will pass the gavel on to Myers.

Les Tronsier and his orchestra will play for the private dance to follow the dinner and ceremonies, Lovelady said.

Murder Mile Victim Raises Death Toll

A 59-year-old Murder Mile traffic victim who was once saved from death when his heart which had stopped for nearly two minutes was massaged by a Harbor General Hospital surgeon, died Monday at the hospital.

The victim, Leslie Pringle, San Pedro, died of injuries received when he was struck by a car last March 23 at Pacific Coast Hwy. near Ocean Ave., Walteria, and of bronchial pneumonia, according to a coroner's report returned late Tuesday.

His condition had remained "very critical" since he was first admitted to the traffic ward of Harbor General Hospital, although some improvement was recorded. Pringle received major internal injuries in the crash.

It was while undergoing surgery by Dr. John S. Getz

that his heart stopped operating. The physician opened Pringle's chest and revived the heart's life by hand-massaging the tissue.

The death is the fourth traffic fatality recorded for the area for 1952. Two others have occurred on Pacific Coast Hwy., another on Western Ave.

Funeral services for Pringle, a longshoreman, will be conducted today at the Cleveland Funeral Home, San Pedro. Burial will follow at Green Hills Cemetery. He is survived by a sister and a brother.

Dick Jones Heads Lomita Optimists

Dick Jones conducted his first meeting as president of the Lomita Optimist Club Tuesday evening when his club and the Lomita Kiwanis Club held a joint meeting at the Boy Scout hall here.

Jones was named president of the Optimists to succeed Barney Higgins, head of the club during the past year.

Named to serve with the new president were Harry Mumby, first vice-president; Haek Pettit, second vice-president; Ron Coll, secretary and Frank Gaggia, sergeant-at-arms.

Death Takes Young Girl

Mass was celebrated for Loretta Mae Todd, 17, preceding funeral services at St. Catherine Laboure Tuesday, with the Rev. Raymond Tepe officiating. Burial was recited at the Stone and Myers Chapel.

Miss Todd, who resided at 18244 Ashley Ave., died at Harbor General Hospital, Friday. She was attending high school here.

Interment followed at the Holy Cross Cemetery. Surviving her are her mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Todd; two sisters, Barbara and Sharon, and an aunt, Mrs. June Foster.



AT THE CONTROLS ... Supervisor Raymond V. Darby takes over the controls of Vic Chatten's new Air Raid Warning device which may replace the now confusing sirens. Darby showed the invention to the supervisors Monday.



READIES CANTATA ... An Easter cantata, "Easter tide," by Stanley R. Avery, will be presented for the public by the Youth Choir of the First Lutheran Church next Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the parish hall at Acacia Ave. and Sonoma. They will be assisted by the Junior Choir. New robes have just been completed for this choir.